(NDPS) Act so as to restrict its alleged misuse.

As far as the drug Rohypnol is concerned, no specific information is available regarding misuse of this drug.

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Sir, I thank the Minister for the reply which has been given by her. There are two drugs, Ketamine Hydrochloride and Rohypnol. There has been rampant misuse reported in the major cities of the country because these drugs are used for the induction of dissociative anaesthesia. These drugs have been sued in crimes. We do appreciate that the Minsitry has taken note of their misuse, and has given its consent now to put Ketamine Hydrochloride under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances act. But Rohypnol is still available in the market. Would the Minister consider directing the Drug Controller of India to ensure a strict vigilant check so that the account of both the quantity of drug which is produced under license and what is sold in the market is kept and if there is any misuse reported or if there is its sale without prescription, strict action should be taken?

SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI: Sir, this drug, Rohypnol, is not marketed in our country. Health is a State subject and we are giving instructions to the State Drug Controllers to do vigilance and take necessary action.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Negative growth in crucial crops

*341. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:
SHRI ANAND SHARMA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the reports from across the country suggest a negative growth in output of crucial crops such as paddy, coarse grains, pulses and oilseeds;

(b) whether Government have received full report of erratic rainfall in the country and its effect on these coarse grains;

(c) whether the rains in September have also improved the position;

(d) if so, whether any final estimate of negative growth in Kharif crop has been made; and

(e) if so, the action plan being considered by Government?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) As per the First Advance Estimates of Production for the year 2005-06, the growth rates in respect of kharif production of paddy, coarse grains, pulses and oilseeds over last year are shown in the table below:

Crop	Production (Million Tones)		Growth Rate (%)
	2004-05	2005-06	(2005-06 over 2004-05)
Paddy	107.51	110.75	3.01
Coarse Grains	26.70	26.44	-0.97
Pulses	4.95	4.98	0.61
Oilseeds	14.94	14.56	-2.54

For Rabi 2005-06 season, the sowing is in progress and it is too early at this juncture to precisely assess the likely production.

(b) The India Meteorological Department has brought out the End of Season report for south-west monsoon 2005 which shows that for the country as a whole the seasonal rainfall from 1st June to 30th September 2005 was 99% of its Long Period Average (LPA). However, during the season, rainfall was not well distributed in time. Rainfall over the country was below normal (12% below LPA) in June with some districts having a deficit ranging between 60-85%. Monsoon was active in July with excess rainfall (14% above LPA). Again the monsoon was subdued in August with a large deficiency of 28% of LPA. Thus, there may be some possibility of reduction in the production of coarse grain and oilseeds.

(c) In September (rainfall +17% above LPA), monsoon became active again helping to revive and improve crop production.

(d) The First Advance Estimates of production of kharif foodgrains and kharif commercial crops taking into account area coverage have already been made in September, 2005, but these estimates will be further revised in the month of January, 2006, factoring in weather conditions, input use, productivity and other relevant parameters.

(e) The programmes aimed at boosting production and productivity of foodgrains and oilseeds include:

(i) The Integrated Cereals Development Programmes in Rice Based, Wheat Based and Coarse Cereals Based Cropping Systems Areas, under Macro Management with assistance being provided for various inputs and training of farmers/extension workers as well as supply of critical inputs like seeds, sprayers and water saving devices like sprinklers and drip system.

(ii) Integrated scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM) is being implemented, through which breeder seed, foundation seed and certified seed, crash programme for quality seed production, distribution of certified seed and Minikits, infrastructure development, Integrated Pest Managements is being provided. It also includes frontline demonstrations on improved production technologies in oilseeds and pulses, conducted through Indian Council of Agricultural Research.

Damage caused by wild elephants in Assam

*342. SHRI SILVIUS CONDPAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the deatails of action taken to prevent the regular movement of wild elephants within the habitation of tea gardens and villages under Amaribari Forest Range of DFO Tezpur in Sonitpur district, Assam for it causes damage to paddy, land, houses, property as well as people;

(b) whether any compensation has been paid to the affected families and the agencies entrusted with task;

(c) the total forest cover maintained during the last five years as well as the details of forest marked as elephant conservation in Assam; and

(d) the steps taken to push back these wild elephants to the conservation area?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) As reported by the Government of Assam, the actions taken to prevent the movement of wild elephants within the habitation of tea gardens and